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To the very Woorthy, Learned, *Iuditious, and Noble Gentleman, Syr Iohn* Harrington Knight.

SIR, *the Loue (which your immortall* Arioſto *tels to the world) that you really beare to* Diuine, (*but now* Poore *and* Contemned) Poeſie, *hath a long time made me an* Honorer *of thoſe bright aſcending* Vertues *in you, which thoſe* Holy *and* Pure Flames *of* Her *haue kindled in your boſome.* Happy *you are by* Birth, *Happy, by your bringing vp, but moſt happy in that the* Muſes *were your* Nurſes, *to whome you haue beene ſo tender, that they make you an* Elder *ſonne and* Heyre *of their* Goodlieſt Poſſeſſions. *So that your* Loue *to* Them, *hath drawne from* Others, *an* Honourable Loue *and* Regarde *of you. The* Path *which* True Nobleneſſe *had wont (and ought) to tread, lyes directly before you: you haue beene euer, and are now in the way, which emboldens me to preſume, that as our* Greateſt Commanders *will not diſdaine to inſtruct euen* Freſh-water ſouldiers *in the Schoole-poynts of war, ſo (out of your Noble diſpoſition) you will vouchſafe to viewe the labours of ſo dull a* Pen, *as* This *that writes, vnto you. Two* Cities *haue I ſummoned to a* Parley, *and of their great* Enter-view *haue I choſen you to be* Arbiter. *It is* Boldnes *in me, I confeſſe, but it is the* Boldnes, *of my* Loue, *referring which (and my ſelfe) to your worthy* Cenſure, I Reſt.

Deuoted to you in all ſeruice,

Thomas Dekker.

Weſtminſters ſpeech to *London*.

O Thou goodlieſt Queene, euen ouer the greateſt Cities! How glad am I (O London) that wee two are met together: For now will I poure my ſorrowes into thy boſome. Thou art Reuerend for thy Age, (as being now, two thouſand ſeuen hundred and fourteene yeares old, which is more then my ſelfe, am, by a thouſand, ſix hundred and foure yeares) for I am but one thouſand, one hundred, and tenne yeares of age.) Thou art Grandam almoſt to this whole Kingdome: A bleſſed Mother thou art, for no leſſe then one hundred and threeſcore Emperours, Kinges, and Queens, haſt thou borne in thy Wombe. Healthfull thou art of body, it appeareth by thy ſtrength in holding out ſo long; pure thou art of complexion; It is ſeene by thy Cheekes, the Roofes of them are nothing wythered: Rich thou art in the treaſure of all things, witneſſe the number of Nations, that for thy ſubſtaunce, are thy dayly ſuitors: ſtored are thy breaſtes with wiſedome, and the glory thereof ſhines in the gouernment of thy Rulers.

Brute builded London, he conquered this Ile in Anno 1108. yeares before Chriſt.

Sybert King of the East Saxons, builded Weſtminſter: he raigned in An. 596. after Chriſt.

160. Kinges in Britaine ſince Brute.

Thou art full of pollicy, great with experience, renowned for Learning; Thou art full of loue, full of pitty, full of piety: yea, thou art (O Noblest Daughter of Brutus) my Eldest Sister; thou rather (if our descents bee well looked into) art my Mother.

Vnto whom therefore can my condolements better come than to thee. Vpon whose lap shall I lay my aking temples if not vpon thine? One eye of Heauen lookes downe vpon vs both; one and the same handfull of earth, serues vs both to dwell vppon: The teares that fall from both our eyes, make vp one Riuer, and that Riuer serues againe for both our bodyes to bath in.

Since therefore wee are partners in all other thinges, why should wee not be Sharers in our mothers affliction! Thou standest silent, I see at these my speeches, as beeing driuen into wonder, why I (that haue alwayes kept company with the proudest, and beene euer Jocond) should now sinke downe into any kinde of complayninges. But to keepe thee (O my best and favrest Neighbour) from tormenting thy selfe with thinking on the causes of this my grieuing: let mee tell thee (thou Nurse to many thousandes of people) that I doe not pine, to see that Ancient and eldest * Sonne of mine, with his Limbes broken to peeces, (as if hee were a Male-factor, and hadde beene tortured on the Germaine Wheele:) his Reuerend Head cut off by the cruelty of Time; The Ribbes of his body bruized; His Armes lop't away; His backe (that euen grew crooked with age) almost cleft in sunder: yea, and the ground (on which hee hath dwelt so many * hundreds of yeeres) ready to bee pulled from vnder his feete, so that with griefe his very heart seemes to be broken.

* Charing-Crosse.

* 316. yeeres since Charing Crosse was buil'ded by Ed: 1, Anno. Chr. 1291.

I confesse (thou bravest of Cities) that this Graund-Childe of mine, hath beene the tallest and hardiest of all the Sonnes of my body: for thou knowest it aswell as I, that hee hath borne himselfe valiantly, (and without shrinking)

An Encomion of Charing Crosse.

in

in many a storme. Many a tempest hath beene dung from Ioues aulters to shake him, yet still hath hee kept his vsuall fasting.

Many a stounding blow hath he taken on his head, yet for a long time did he beare them without reeling. So well beloued hath hee beene amongst the Kinges and Princes of this Nation, that they would almost neuer passe, to those Royall Pallaces where I inhabit, and neuer repayre to their Houses of Parliaments, or to their places of Kingly Triumphes, but they would of purpose take their way by him: yea, so greatly hath hee in times past beene holde in honour, that the knees of common people hath beene bowed before him, and the bare heades of the greatest Prelates heretofore haue shewed to him a kinde of reuerence. Yet it is not for his sake (O fame-renowned Troynouant) that my Soule liues in sorrow: albeit, I see him now laughed at and contemned.

Neither am I inflicted by beholding the vnruly nesse of those Children that are vnder my keeping. It were a madnesse in mee to frette at their wickednesse, because no sorrow of mine can amend it. I know it, and am ashamed to tell thee, that Drunkennesse reeles euery day vp and downe my streetes. Infinites there are that follow mee, who in deepe bowles shall drowne the Dutchman, and make him lie vnder the Table. At his owne weapon of Vpsie freeze will they beate him, and beat him with wine-pots till hee be dead drunke. But swagger they will besides (being armed with that French weapon) a whole Fryze full of Butchers and Tinkers, who commonly are the greatest Fighters, and most publique Quarrellers. As for that sin that is after seene in dinner, and after Supper: or rather that sinne that is vp night and day, and can see as well in darkenesse as in Lights that ponder with two bellies, (Lechery I meane) doe what I can, no whips are able to make it leape out of my Iurisdiction. Poore Hayden-heades I verily be-

The sinnes of Westminsters.

Drunkennesse

Quarrelling.

Lechery

leeue

leene are cut off vpon my owne feather-beds (in one yeare) then are heads of Cattell cut off in (in two) amongſt the Butchers that ſerue my families.

But I feare (O London) that by dwelling ſo neare thee thou haſt infected my houſes with theſe two plagues, that now run ouer all the Kingdome: for all the world knowes that euen thy ſhop-keepers and poore Tradeſmen lay by their owne occupations, and fall to theſe.

Pride. Other ſinnes lies gnawing (like diſeaſes) at my heart, for Pride ſits at the doores of the rich: Enuy goes vp and downe with the Begger, feeding vpon Snakes. Rents are layde vpon the racke (euen my owne ſight) and by my owne Children that I haue borne, whilſt Conſcience goes like a foole in pyed colours, the ſkin of her body hanging ſo looſe, that like an Oxford Gloue, thou wouldſt ſweare there were a falſe ſkin within her.

Enuy. Extortion.

Auarice Coueroufnes hath got a hundred handes, and all theſe hands do nothing but tye knots on her Purſe-ſtrings, but Vnthriftines. Prodigality hauing but two handes, vndoes thoſe knottes faſter, than the other can tie them. O thou Darling of Great Brittaine, thy Princes call thee Their Treaſurer and thou art ſo. But more peeces of Siluer and Gold paſſe not through thy fingers, then oathes from the mouthes of my inhabitants.

Thou art held to be (O London) the lowdeſt ſwearer in the kingdome, becauſe (ſome ſay) thou haſt whole ſhoppes and Ware-houſes filled with oathes yet I feare, I haue thoſe about me that for filthy mouthing wil put thee downe, for I am haunted with ſome that are called Knights onely for their ſwearing. Ranckely doe theſe and other ſtinking weedes grow vp in my walkes, and in my Gardens, the ſauours of them are Peſtilent to my Noſthrils, and are able to kill me, yet much good wholeſome fruits do I feed vpon, that are to my life a preſeruation. So, that for the aches that theſe diſeaſes breed in my bones I doe not languiſh neyther.

Swearing: Knights of the Poſt.

Thou

Thou knowest and I confesse it, (for if I should not, the whole world would swear it) that thou possessest the more, but I the more goodly buildings: thy houses are contryued for thrift and profitable vses, mine for state and pleasure: thou dwellest vnder plaine roofes, I within royall Pallaces: euery roome that thou lodgest in, is but called a Chamber, and euery Chamber I sleepe in, is a Kinges Court: In thine Armes lie the sonnes of England to suck wealth, but in my lap sit the Princes of England to be Crowned, In my bosome doe they slumber whilest they liue, and when they dye, they deare to bee buried betweene my breasts.

The building of Westminster and London compared.

To testifie this, all the annoyted kinges and Queenes, (except one, who receiued his Crowne at Glocester) with all the Wiues of those kinges, that haue raigned heere since that Norman Conqueror, would if they were now liuing speake on my side in that behalfe, for the full number of 21. Kinges and two Queens (being a payre of fitters) haue receiued the glorious Titles of Maiestie, and were seen the very first day of their sitting on the English throne onely at my hands, and in my presence, of which that conquerour, and Matilda (his wife) had the honour to begin, for till hys time, other places wer made happy by that dignity, as Kingston, &c. which then were farre aboue me, but now can no way be my equall.

21 Kings and two Queenes besides the wiues of those Kinges haue bin crowned at Westminst.

To proue how much the Rulers of this Monarchy haue loued mee euen on their Death-beds, their bodies which they haue (as their richest Legacies) bequethed to my keeping, are royall witnesses. I can shew thee (O thou Noblest of thy Nation) the bones not onely of most of those kinges before-named, but of some that liued here long before them.

William conquerour, and his Wife the first that were crowned in Westminster.

But because the Graue is the vtter destroyer of all beauty, yea and so defaceth the lookes and the bodies euen of the goodliest princes, that men abhorre to behold them: also for that it is held an acte most impious, and full of Sacrilege to offer violence to the deade, I will onely giue thee

the names of all those Kinges, Queenes, and Princes Royal blood, that now lay their heads on my knées & must sléepe there till that day, when all that rest in graues, shal be summoned to awaken. Of these, was Sybert (King of the East-Saxons) the first, with his wife Æthelsoda. Sybert gaue me my first being in the world, and at his departure from the worlde, did I giue his body an euerlasting habitation. Next vnto him did I lay Harold (Sir-named Hare-foot) King of the West Saxons.

Kings buryed in Westmin.

Then Edward the Confessor, vppon whoms king William bestowed a shryne of Syluer and Golde. And then these.

Ægytha, wife to that Conquerour.

Matilda, wife to Henry the first, and daughter to Malcoline king of Scots.

Henry 3. who builded a great part of that my famous Temple, and whose Sepulcher was adorned with precious stones of Iasper, fetched by his sonne Edwarde the 1. out of France.

Eleanor, wife to that Henry.

Edmund second Sonne to that Henrie, the first Earle of Lancaster, Darby, and Liecester, wyth Auelyne (hys Wife) who was Daughter and heyre to the Earle of Albemarle.

Besides him, all the Children of the sayde Henry the 3. and of Edward, 1. (being nine in number.)

Edward the first, who offered to the Shryne of Edward the Confessor, the Chaire of Marble, wherein the kinges of Scotland had wont to be crowned, and in which the king that first made England and Scotlande one Monarchy, was now lately inthronized. Eleanor wife to that Edward 1. and Daughter to Ferdinando king of Castyle. In memory of whose death, so many stately Crosses (as Monumentes of his loue to her) were erected in all those places where her body was set downe, when it was sent to bee lodged with mee.

Elea-

Eleanor, Countesse of Barre, Daughter of Edwarde the first.

Edward 3. and Phillip of Henalt (his wife.)

William of Windsore and Blanch (his Sister) children to Edward the third.

Thomas of Wood-stock, sonne likewise to that Edward, Iohn of Eltham, (Earle of Cornewall) sonne to Edward the second.

Richard 2. that vnfortunate king with Anne his Wife, Daughter of Vinceslaus king of Bohem, which Anne brought vp the fashion for women to ride in side Saddles, which till her time rode as men.

Then that Guttorum Mastix, the scourge of the French, Henry 5. to doe honor to whose victorious and dreaded name, Katherine his wife, and daughter to the King of France, caused an Image (to the portraiture of his husbande) to bee made of Pally Siluer, all gilded ouer, which was layde vpon his Monument: but Couetousnes, not suffering euen hallowed places, and the shrines of the dead to bee free from his griping talents, the head of that Image, which was al of Pally siluer, is now broke off, & the plates that couered the body stoln, and conueyed away.

That royall Quéene and Bedfellow of his, Lady Katherine, was with mee likewise layd to rest, but after, beeing taken vp, (without any wrong meant to the body) it nowe lyes vnburied in a poore Coffin of bordes, and with the least touch falleth into ashes.

Adde to these, Anne the wife of Richard the third.

Margaret Countesse of Richmond and Darby, mother to Henry the 7.

Anne of Cleue, wife to Henry the 8.

Henry 7. and Elizabeth his wife, do in mine armes likewise take their euerlasting sleeps: so does Elizabeth daughter to these most happy Princes.

So doth Margaret daughter to Edward 4.

So doth Edward the 6, Sonne to that famous prince,

So doth Mary whose name serues her only as a Monument.

And lastly so doth Elizabeth, daughter to that great warriour, who if shee had no Monument at all consecrated to memory, yet were her name sufficient to eternize her Sacred worth, and the wonder of her 44. years gouernement. Thus (besides other personages of great byrth, too many in number for me to recite and too tedious for thee to heare) am I compassed about with the dead bodies of 42. Kings, Queenes, and the sons and daughters of Kings & Queens, ỹ remembrance of whom is able to turn me w̃ sorrow into Marble, *but ỹ their statues & sumptuous monuments, do shine in my Temples, and worke such astonishment in the eyes (euen of straungers) that I esteeme that hurt of mine, the best part of my glory. Besides all these gallant obiects. The swifte-footed Thamesis, daunceth all the day long, (in wanton Water-ringes) before mee, shee transformes her Christall body into a thousand shapes to delight mee: Sometimes does shee chaunge her selfe into *a Girdle of Siluer, and then doe I weare it about my middle. Sometimes lookes shee like an *Amazon, (a long curled hayre hanging loosely about her shoulders) and then dooes shee fight with the windes, and her combates are discharged with excellent grace. Anon shall you beholde her lymbes stretcht out to an infinite, but comely *length,) and then (O my worthyest Sister) doe we two grow proude, and take her for a Ryuer whilest shee continues in that shape, thou knowest what delicate turnings and windinges shee does make euen at our feete: thy habitations stande then like a rich Embrodery about the skirts of an imperial garment, but my buildinges shew like so many Castles, raised by Enchantment, where faire Ladies locke vppe their beauties, whilst knights aduenturers come armed thether with loyalty, challenging them for their loues: yea in such goodly, & in so artificial an order are my Turrets and Towers erected, that the Sun (at his rising) makes mee be-

42 Kings and Queenes and the Children of Kinges buried in West.

*High water.

Rough water.

Ebbing water for then shee runs into the Sea, where hir length cannot be measured.

leeue

læue they are Rockes of Burnisht Siluer, & with his blushing vpon them (at his going downe) I haue a thousande times swoorne they were so many hils of Gold.

Bee thou nowe an indifferent Iudge (O London, thou fayrest Daughter of Europe) if I, beeing accustomed to this fulnesse of dignitie, and this variety of pleasures, haue not good cause to languishe when I am depriued of them all. The more princely are my guests, the more insufferable, and more to be pitied are my passions, spent for their absence. Well was it for thee (thou Metropolis of the world) that the honours, the Habits, the Tryumphes, the gifts of Kinges, and the Reuennewes that belong to my Royalties, are not made Thine: thou swellest in thy heart enough already, but then wouldst thou haue bin too proud and insolent.

Now therefore can I chuse but buffet my owne chéekes through the anguish of my Soule? Teare my owne hayre to see my selfe distressed? and euen drinke mine own hart-bloud in teares, to looke on my present miserie? Listen to me: for now (O my déerest Play-fellow) shalt thou heare the very true tunes of my most iust bewaylings.

Those throwes of sorowe come vppon mee foure times euery yéere, but at one time more, (and with more paines) then at all the rest. For in the height and lustiest pride of Summer, when euery little Village hath her Barbilers & her Damosels tripping deftly about May-pols: when Medowes are full of Hay-makers: when the fieldes vpon the workidaies are full of Haruestars singing, and the towngréenes vpon Hollydayes, trodden downe by the Youthes of the Parish dancing: when thou (O thou beautifull, but bewitching Citty) by the wantonnesse of thine eye, and the Musicke of thy voyce allurest people from all the corners of the Land, to throng in heapes, at thy Fayres and thy Theators: Then, (euen then) sit I like a Widdow in the middest of my mourning: then doe my buildings shew like infected lodgings, from which the Inhabitants are fledde: then

Westminsters complaint.

Bartholmew-tide.

The long vacation before Michelmas Tearme.

then are my chambers empty, and my common paths vntrodden: then doe I not looke like thy next neighbour, but like a creature forlorne, and vtterly forsaken. Were it not that my state is vpheld by fiue great Pillers, (the chiefe of them being so hie, that Kinges and Princes sit on the top of it) I should euen loose my name, and the memory of mee would be buryed in the earth, that now beares me vp.

The Court & 4. Tearmes

That first and Capitall * Columne (on which leanes all my strength) is a Pyramides, whose point reaches vppe to the Starres: whilest that stands in mine eye, I behold a * Maiesty, equall to Ioues: I see a * Vine, whose braunches shall spread so farre, and so hie, that one day they shall couer Kingdomes. I see likewise a * Table, at which sit none, but Those, whose heads grow white onely with the Cares of a Kingdom: I see a Row of * Lords too, whose flourishing doth dignify the place vppon which they grow, and whose shady boughes beate backe, and keepe off from the people the violent heate of Tyrany and oppression: Besides all these, do I behold a goodly Fountain, * large, cleare, strongly, and curiously built, out of which come a thousand pipes, (some greater then the rest) thorough whome a sweete water flowes, that giues life vnto the Soule. And last of all (so full is my happinesse) in stead of earthly Creatures, I see none but * Goddesses. But (woe is me) when this great Piller is removed from my sight, then (casting vp mine eye) me thinks I looke vpon nothing but my owne Ruines. Nay, that calamitie of mine doth euen stretch to thee: for thou thy selfe, for all thy loftinesse and boasting, doost at that time droope, and hange the head.

* The Court.
* The King.
* The Queen and her Progeny.
* The Counsell.
* The Nobility.
* The Clergy
* The Ladyes of the Court.

But note how the Rulers of this Land haue loued mee; though they giue mee woundes, they giue mee Balme to cure them: though the Sunne goe from me, yet am I comforted with the brightnesse of the Stars. The Law (which lyes in, at euery Vacation) is brought to bed in foure seuerall months of the yeare, and deliuered of foure * Sonnes. Those Sonnes inuite me to foure kingly Feasts; they keep

* The foure Tearmes.

their

their Tournes; and their Returnes, are so many seuerall Seruices. They are the Foure Elements that gouerne and giue life to my body; yea, so déere doe I make them vnto me, that I account of them, as of Foure Golden Ages. Whilest any of these foure abide in my Company, I am more Iocond then a Woman in the embracements of her Louer. My Chéekes looke then red, with a high and lusty colour, for I wash them in Wines: my heart is merry, for I nourish it with gladnesse. Then doe my Tenants sléepe soundly, (for they drinke soundly:) Then dare they talke any thing, for they haue Lawe on their sides; Then are they content to take crackt Crownes, though at another time they would stabbe him that should but hitte their eare. The good that the terme bring to westminster.

Vintners are then as busie as Bees are in Hiues, for as Bées flye from one Flower to another to sucke out Hony, so doth the Drawers leape from one Hogshead to another to let out Wines. In euery rome are the Pottle Pottes working, to bring in gaines to their Maister, as the other labor, to bring forth wax for their hiues. The stings are in the tailes, and that is at the end of their Cups, when they come to a barre for the Reckoning: The Drones are those that drinke that which should doe others good, yet hurt themselues by it, taking too much of it. How busie Westminster is in a tearme time.

Neither do Tauernes alone fall into this profitable and healthfull sweating Sickneſse: but all other Trades, Occupations, Mistéries, and Professions, do row vp & down this Spring-tide streame of businesse; and such good Draughts haue they, that all is Fish that comes into their Net.

Yea, in the open streetes is such walking, such talking, such running, such riding, such clapping to of windowes, such rapping at Chamber doores, such crying out for drink, such buying vp of meate, and such calling vppon Shottes, that at euery such time, I verily beléeue I dwell in a Towne of Warre.

For

Going to law compared to going to war.

For euery morning do the men of law march to the Hall, as it were to the fielde: The Counsellors are the Leaders, Atturnies and Clarkes, are petty Commaunders, and Officers of the band: the trayned old Weather-beaten Souldiers, are those that haue followed the Law a long time, and haue vndoone themselues by brabblinges. The raw, fresh-water Souldiers, are such as entered but yesterday into the action.

In which March of theirs, if you fall but in amongst the Rankes, you will by and by suppose your selfe in the Low-Countries; for as the Souldiers (there) so these (here) talk of nothing but Stratagems and poyntes of War. Some threaten to ouerthrow their aduersaries, vpon assaults and Battryes: Some (as if an enemy were to be blown vp in a Towne) sweare to driue them out of their houses by way of Ejectments: Others, as if they came to the sacking of a Citty, cry out vpon nothing but Attachments, both of goodes and body.

And as among Souldiers, some delight in bloud more then others, so amongst these, some take a pryde in cruelty more then others, and labour onely to haue their Enemies in Execution. At the length, they come into the fielde, (that is to say, to the Barre) where they must trie the quarrell by Arbiterment of wordes in stead of swordes: for there either the one side or other is ouerthrown: There stand the Pikemen (that is to say, such as haue had long sutes) and being wearyed, care not almost which end goes forward, because they are at a stand, The Bill-men hard by them, but they for the most part are euer complayning. And thus (thou Opinion of so many Kinges) doth this stirring vp and downe of my body, stirre vppe my bloud, and kepes mee sound: this peopling of my streets, makes me to be crowned with the title, dignity, and liberties of a Cittie, (for what are Cities if they be not peopled:) this Phisick (so long as I take it) preserues my body in health: But because I am compelled sometimes to giue it ouer, (which is commonly

They that haue had long sutes are like Pike-men, Chancery-mē like Bill-men.

in

in Harueſt, and now a little at the beginning of the fall of the leafe, (for this part of the yeare doth moſt trouble mee) I feele the ſtate of my body weake, and ſubiect to infirmities. For alaſſe there are certaine Canker-Wormes (called Vacations) that deſtroy the Trées of my Inhabitants, ſo ſoone as euer they beare any fruite. Theſe Vacations are to mine owne body, like long and walking conſumptions, they are more grieuous to my remembrance, then the comming on of a tedious night to a man tormented with ſicknes: or then marriages delaied, to them that lie ſighing for the delights thereof. The hurt that vacations doe to Weſtminſter.

The vnwholeſome breath of Autumne, who is ſo full of diſeaſes, that his very blowing vppon trées, makes theyr leaues to fal off (as the French Razor ſhaues off the haire of many of thy Suburbians,) euen that, and all the foure Patſter-windes that keepe ſuch a bluſtring in the world, do not more ſcatter the duſt of the Earth, then the cold blaſtes of foure Vacations, doe blow abroad the wealth that before I haue gotten together.

In the Tearme-times euery day to me is a day of feaſting, but euery Vacation ſtarues me with ill dyet, for all the daies of them are to me nothing but faſting daies. Yea, the Dog-dayes are not halfe ſo vnwholeſome, ſo peſtilent & ſo perilous to the bodyes of men, as thoſe are to mee. The Tearmes are my flowings, the Vacations my ebbinges. So that (if I were ſure the world would not hold mee for a miſerable and couetous wretch) I could euen wiſh, that theſe battayles of the law, were fighting all the yeare long. It were as much glory, fame, and preferment for mee to haue it ſo, as it is for the Low-countries, to be all the year vp in armes.

And tell me I pray, (thou prouident Pitſtris ouer ſo many families) tell mee in thine opinion, if it were not fit to haue all theſe foure Riuers of the law, run into one ſtream, without any ſtoppings or turnings. For, do but conſider what voyage a man is to make when he ſayes, I muſt goe

to Law: It is a Voyage, but short and easie to finish, if you meete with an honest and skilfull Pilot, that knowes the right puttings in, the watering-places, and the Hauens, and can auoyd the Rockes, Gulfes, Creekes, & quick-sands that lie cleane out of the way, and yet many a thousand do desperately runne themselues on ground, and suffer Ship-wracke vppon them. But on the contrary part, if a Man sets out carelesly, not taking the Counsell of men experienced in those Seas, though he be neuer so well furnished, neuer so well manned, neuer so strong in heart, neuer so able to brooke stormes and tempests; yet let him bee sure to be tossed from coast to Coast, to bee driuen forward with one prosperous gale to day, and to be blown three times further backward with a boistrous breath to morrow: to haue his Soule afflicted with cares, and his heart eaten vppe with frettinges, and in the end to finde (to his cost) that he had beene better to haue vndertaken a Voyage to the East and West Indyes: and sooner hadde he made his returne home. So that to hoyst vppe Sayles in this Ocean of Controuersies, and to meete with a fortunate and faire Ariuall, is as much honor, as to go to Ierusalem, and safely to come back againe.

Praise of the Law.

The Law is vnto vs, as the heauens are ouer our heads: of their owne Nature they are cleere, gentle, and readie to doe good to man: they giue light to his eyes, comfortable Ayre to his Spirits, warmth to reuiue him, coolenesse to refresh him. But if they bee troubled by brablings and vnruly mindes, and be put from their owne smoth and euen byas, then doe they plague the world with stormes: Then doth Thunder shake the Rich mans building, lightning burnes vp the poore mans Corne, Haile-stones beat down the fruites of the earth, and all Creatures that are within reach of their fury, tremble, and hide their heads at the horrour.

The very phrase of Going to Law, shewes the greatnes, Maiesty, and state of Law: for the Law comes to no man, but

but he is eyther driuen, or else so busie of himselfe, that he goes to it. The Law sleepes continually, vnlesse shee bee wakened by the wronges of men oppressed, or by the turbulency of those that will not let her rest: for the first sort of which people, she hath a payre of Ballance, wherein shee wieghes their Innocence, and the Iniuries of others, forcing one to make good the hurts of the other. Against the second, she drawes a sword, with which shee both strikes them that breake hir peace, and defends thē that are threatned to be struck wrongfully. He that Goes therefore to Law, goes before a personage, whose browes are vnwrinckled, yet full of Iudgement; whose eyes are not wandring, yet turning to both sides; whose lips are sildome opened, yet what they pronounce is iust; whose countenāce is austere, yet setled in vprightnesse; whose hands are open to all, yet neuer filled with bribes; whose heart lies hidden, yet frée from corruption. And what man would not desire to bee hourly conuersant with so excellent, and so composed a creature. He that is vp to the eares in Law, is vp to the eares in experience; He cannot chuse but bee a good Subiect, because he kéepes the Statutes and ordinances of his Country: he cannot chuse but proue a worthy souldier, because he is still in action: he must of necessity be both honest and pittifull, for hee measureth other mens cases by his owne. Law: why it makes a man watchfull, for he that meddles with it, is sure neuer to sleepe: It keeps him from the Irish mans disease, (Lazynes:) from the Dutch-mans weakenesse (in not Bearing drinke:) from the Italians euill spirit that haunts him, (Lust) for hees so busied with so many Actions of the Case, that hee can haue no leysure nor stomacke, to the Case of Actions: It preserues him from the French falling sickenesse, yet no Stoues in Moscouy can put a man into more violent sweates. And last of all, it kéepes him out of the English-mans surfeites, for his wayting at his Counsels Chamber so runs in his head, that he scarcely allowes himselfe a time to dine or sup in.

Paradox in prayse of going to law.

O what an excellent Husband doth this going to Law make a man? He gives ouer gaming presently vppon it: He shakes off al commany that drew him to expences, and in euery Vacation is so prouident, that with the Ant hee layes vp Money then, to let it flye amongest Councellors, and Atturnies in the Tearme-time: what an able and lusty bodie doth he get by it, that followes it hard? No Carryer is able to take more paynes: no Porter beares more.

It makes a man to be well giuen, for he prayes (euen as hee ambles vp and downe the streetes:) It makes him to be beloued amongst Lawyers Clarks, and to be feared amongst his owne neigbours, (two properties which euery King desires from the hearts of his Subiects (Loue and Feare.)

If men should not goe to Lawe one with another, the Courtier would walke vp and down (Jetting) by the Mercers doore, and wearing his Silkes vnder his nose, which now he dare not doe. Thy Cittizens (O thou the Best and onely Huswife of this Iland) if Suites were not tryed, some would scarce keepe a good Sute on their backs, Solicitors might likewise goe beg, and Scriueners goe starue themselues.

Had not the people of this large Kingdome laine to so many priuate quarrels, about blowes giuen; To so many intricate bargains, about buying and selling of Lands; To so many Cozenages of wicked Executors, in vndoing Orphans and Heires, and so many starting holes, Crannies, Creuises, windings, wrestlings, rackings, Circumgirations, & Circumuentions, to abuse the beautiful body of the Law, and to make it grow crooked, which of it selfe is comly & vpright. And had not the Law prouided cures for these sores of a common-wealth, & whips to punish such villains, Thou (O princely Mother of many Cities) shouldst neuer haue had so many gallant, Sumptuous, & rare Nurseries for young Students, erected full in thine eye, which stand before thy buildinges, as Gates to Kinges Pallaces, and

are

are the onely honor for entrances into thée.

Had not the Inhabitants of this Empyre warred so in law from time to time, one with another, shes coulde not haue boasted of so many Graue, wise, and Learned Iudges. Of so many Discreét, Sage, and reuerend Iustices, Of so many carefull, prudent, and honourable Maiestrates. By meanes of this, is the Gentry of the Land increased, (for Studyes are Trées that bring forth aduancement) by meanes of this, the multitude is helde in Obedience, for lawes are bridles, to curbe those that are headstrong.

What a rare inuention therefore was pen and Incke, out of whom (as streames from a Fountaine, flow all these wonders? How much beholden are men to his witte, that out of a poore Gose-quill was the first deuiser of so strange an Instrument as a Pen, which carries in it such power, such Conquest, such terror, such comfort, and such authority, that euen the greatest Subiects in kingdomes are glad somtimes to be beholden to it, and as often to tremble whé it is but held vp against them. For a Pen in a princes hand commaunds with as ample force as his Scepter, with it doeth he giue Pardons for life, or the heauy doom of death. It bestowes honours and preferments, and like a Trumpet proclaimes a kinges Liberality. Yea, of such Vertue is that worke which a princes hand doth with it, that Actes of Parliament cannot giue a stronger confirmation.

A Paradox in praise of a Pen.

It giues charters to cities, binds leagues of Ammitie with forraign Nations.

In the hande of a Iudge, it is as dreadfull as his voyce, for it either saues or condemnes, pronounceth freedome or imprisonment.

In the handes of a Spirituall finger, it sets downe notes of Musicke, which to heare the very Angels leape for ioy in heauen, and deliuererh forth such Diuine Oracles, that out of them, mortals finde meanes to climbe vp to eternity. Lastly, in the hand of a good Lawyer, a Pen is the common sword of Iustice, and doth as much in the quarrell of the poore man as of the rich: with it, doth he help those that

are beaten downs by oppreſſion, and liftes them vp by ſupplications: but they that are treſpaſſers againſt the ſacred Orders of equity, doeth hee with that Axe onely leade into Execution.

In the handes of badde and vnconſcionable Lawyers, Pens are forkes of yron, vpon which poore Clients are toſſed from one to another, till they bleede to death: yea the nebs of them are like the Beakes of Vultures, (who ſo they may glutte their appetite with fleſh) care not from whoſe backes they teare it.

How many thouſandes (with that little Engyne alone) do raiſe vp houſes to their poſterity, whileſt the Ignorant prodigall, drownes all the Acres of his Auncеſtors in the bottome of a Wine-ſeller, or buries them al in the belly of a Harlot? How many fly higher, and ſpread a more Noble wing with that one feather, then thoſe Butter-flies do, that ſtare vp and downe in the eyes of a kingdome, with all the painted feathers of their riotous pride.

Is it not pitty then (O thou wiſeſt Cenſurer of worldly matters.) Is it not great pitty, that an Inſtrument of ſo muſicall a ſound, of ſuch excellent rarity and perfection, ſhould at any time lie dumbe and vntouched, and not rather be played vpon, euen from the beginning of the Suns early progreſſe to his ending, and without intermiſſion? It is, It is, and I know for all thy ſilence thou ſubſcribeſt in thought to this my opinion.

Thus haue I made thee a witnes of my lamentings, the teares of mine eyes haue in their falling down, dropt vpon thine owne cheekes: I haue opened vnto thee my Bowels, and thou ſeeſt what conſumptions hang vpon me, to make me pyne to nothing. Be thou now (O thou Bryde worthy the loue euen of the greateſt king.) Be thou and the whole worlde my witneſſes, if I deſcend into theſe complaynings without iuſt inforcement.

I haue beere, and there (in this ſtory of my fortunes,) reckoned vppe ſome part of my owne worth, and my owne

inioyninges, least swimming altogether, or too long in the streame of my sorrowes, I shoulde vtterly quicke haue sunke, and so drowne my honour, by forgetting that I am a Citty.

Counsell mee therefore now, (O thou Charitable Releeuer and Receiuer of distressed Strangers) how I may either make this burden of my affliction lye more lightly on my shoulders, or else how my shoulders may bear it with a commendable patience.

Londons aunswere to West-minster.

AT these wordes, (The Mother of the twelue Companies,) once or twice shaking her aged but reuerend head, on the top of which stood (as the Crowne of her honour) a heape of lofty Temples and Pynnacles, to the number of one * hundered and nine) thus grauelie began. * 109. parishes in London.

That I haue summoned vppe more yeares, and therefore more care than thou hast (O beloued of all our English Princes) the Chronicles of Tyme, (who sets downe al Occurrents) can testifie.

I dare boast, that Experience hath with her owne finger written her Historyes on my fore-head, for I haue had Negotiation with all the Nations that be in the world. I haue séene the growings vppe, and the withering of many Empyres: the obseruation of forraigne Countryes hath bin my studdy, whyleſt the politicke and stayed gouernment of my owne hath béene my glory. So carefull haue I béene, and so Iealous of my own estate, (séeing Cittyes greater than my selfe, to lye as lowe nowe as their firste Foundation) that I haue Printed downe their mutabilities and their greatest miseries in the midst and depth of

of my palmes, because they should be euer in mine eye as Cautionary prospects. So that it shall well become thee, (neyther needest thou be ashamed) to borrow aduice from me that am thine Elder, and so beaten to the affayres of the world.

Counsell is the cheapest gift that one Friend can bestow vpon another, yet if it be well husbanded, the Interest of no Golde nor Siluer, can amount to halfe the value of it. Giue me leaue therefore to speake (O thou Courtly Paramour) and to speake my minde boldly, for albeit thou art the Fauourite of Greatnesse, & standest Gracious (as they' Minions) in the eyes of our princes, yet will I be no slaue to my owne thoughtes (like a Parasite) to flatter thée in euils, wherein I shall finde thee woorthy of reprehension.

If I spy any blemishes on thy body, I will lay euen my finger vpon them (not to haue them hidden but discouered) and whatsoeuer I doe or say, take it not thou, as done in scorne or in thy dishonour, but as out of the office, of integrity, zeale, & hawty affection of an honest friend. For wee two haue reason to assist one another with all the faculties and powers that are within vs, sithence, no calamitie can fall vpon the one, but the other must receiue many bruises by it.

Noble thou art of byrth, as my selfe am, for from two seuerall kings had we both our beings. Noble is thy bringing vppe as is thy raising to high fortunes. Such therefore as thou arte, woulde I haue thée still to beare thy selfe, and not to be delected into vulgar, low, & earthlie prostitutions, for any threatninges or any blowes of insulting Fortune. Well did it become the greatnes of thy place, thy state and calling, not to be throwne downe into a womanish softnes, for that aged and reuerend (but *wry-necked) sonne of thine, whose woorthinesse thou hast sufficientlie proclaimed.

*Charing Crosse.

Miseries that fall vpon vs by our owne wilfulnes, or by others Tyrannie, are to vs grieued at, because wee suf-

fer

for iniuſtly: But ſtroakes ỹ are inenitable, are to be receaued, yea, to bee met and ſtood vnder with a moſt conſtant and reſolued fortitude.

His downefall, though it ſéeme great, yet is it not to be lamented, but to be borne, becauſe he fell not vpon a diſhonorable Graue; But into ſuch a one, as by the frailety of Time, Nature, and deſtiny, was prordayned for him. His end was not like the end of Traytors, who are cut off in the pride of their bloud and youth, or as the end of Citties, that reuolt from the obedience of their Soueraignes, and haue their Obloquies growing vp ſtill, euē in their Aſhes: But he threw himſelfe vppon the earth, ſéeing the hand of extreame age (which muſt pull downe at laſt the whole frame of this Worlde) lay ſo hardly, and ſo heauily vppon him. Had his Ruine béene wrought by thoſe terrible thunder-Clappes of ciuill Warre, when (in the raigne of King Stephen) all the Realme was in a flaming combuſtion of diſcord, kindled by Maud the Empreſſe, in the quarrell of Duke Henry (her Son,) Or had he béen condemned in that mad Parliament held at Oxford, when the Barons of this Land (within fewe monthes after) firſt forced their King (Henry of that name the third) to take my Tower for his Sanctuary, and after toke him priſoner with his Sonne, and many of his Nobility, at the battaile at Lewes. Or had he béene brought to ſlauery and confuſion, as I my ſelfe (for all my ſtrength of friendes and my owne greatneſſe) was likely to haue béene in two ſeuerall rebellions: The one in the raigne of Richard the ſecond, by Eſſex men, who beheaded all men of Law, deſtroyed the Records and Monuments of Learning; tyranized ouer Straungers, and threatned to lead me and my Inhabitantes into Captiuitie, and ſo bring vpon me bitter diſolation. The other in thoſe tempeſtuous and variable toſſinges of that vertuous, but wretched King Henry the ſixt, in the handes of Fortune, when a fire of commotion was kindled by Kentiſh-men, whoſe flames euen beganne to burne in my owne boſome.

Warres of the Barons in K. Stephens raigne.

Mad parliament at Oxford held by the Barons in 23. of Henry the third.

Rebellion in Eſſex by Wat Tyler.

Rebellion in Kent: Iack Cade.

Diſcention of the two Families, Lancaſter and Yorke.

Battaile on Palm ſunday.

Or had that ſame of thine periſhed betweene the rage of those two great Families, (the Yorkiſts and Lancaſtrians,) that was nourished so many yéars together, with the liues, honors, and ouerthrowes of so many Princes of the blood Royall, and with the fall of so many Subiects, that in one battaile were diſcomfited on both sides, 35111. Persons, then if thou hadſt not lamented for him, I should worthily haue blamed thée, then would I my selfe haue borne a parte in thy sorrow.

A better, and not so blacke a fate hath weighted vppon That Mirror of antiquity belonging to thee, than (euer since the firſt rayſing) hath falne vpon the Goodlieſt, the Greateſt, the Higheſt, and moſt Hallowed * Monument of mine. His miſeries haue béene so many, and the top of his calamities is clymbed vp to such a height, that I should do his sorrowes wrong, to set thē to the tune of my voyce, whō no notes but his owne are able to sing them forth. Lift vp therefore thy heauy head (O thou that art maintayned by the Pillers of the Church) and though thou haſt a leaden countenance, of which may be gathered the true and full weight of that which lyes vppon thée to preſſe thée downe, yet with a voyce (lower then theirs that are daily Singers of heauenly songs in thy hearing,) ring thou forth the Alarum of those paſſionate heart-breaking blulations, which (like the ruptures of Thunder) force a continuall paſſage through thy boſome. Bee thou attentiue likewiſe (thou Nurſer vp of all our Engliſh Nobility) and as I haue lent an erected and ſerious eare to those Complaints which thou powreſt forth in behalfe of thy Sonne, So be thou (I conjure thée) a ſilent and obſeruing Auditor of these Lamentations, which I ſée are already ſtriuing to make way through the lips of this afflicted Child of mine. Marke him well, for now he begins.

* Paules ſteeple

London ſpeaking to Paules ſteeple,

Paules

The dead Tearme.

Paules Steeples complaint.

WHerein? O wherein haue I (the most vnfortunate of all this Kingdome) offended so highly, that thus often, and with such dreadfull blowes, I shu'd be smote by the hands of heauen? For cruelly haue I beene stricken that euen fire (to my thinking) hath flasht out at mine eye: and such deepe woundes haue I receiued on my head, that instead of teares, my very battlements haue dropt downe, and in their falling haue scalded my cheekes, as if they had béene shewers of molten Lead. Doth this hot Vengeance fly (as if it were with the swiftest winges of Lightning) from aboue, to seize vpon me, for my owne sinnes, or for his, that first beganne to set me vpps? But alasse: How ingratefull am I, to haue of my Patron so vnrighteous, and so godlesse a remembrance? Ethelbert (King of Kent) was my Founder: out of the dust of the earth did he raise mée; out of the hard Rock was I fashioned to a beautifull shape, and by him consecrated to a most holy and religious vse: For Ethelbert (that good King) was the first that gaue entertainment to Augustine, Melitus, Iustus, and Iohn: who by Saint Gregory were sent hither to preach the Misteries Diuine: The deuotion of which men, like foure streames, caused the Christian Fayth to fly into this land, and that princely father of mine, was the first whom they conuerted. The first bringers of the fayth into this Land.

In aduancement of Religion, and to make it spread higher, did hee set mee into the earth, planted mée, and bidde a reuerend care to haue mee grow vppe in state and beauty. It cannot be therefore, that so good and meritorious a worke in him, should be so ill rewarded.

No, no, it is not for his sake, that I haue beene punnish-ed, but eyther for my owne or some others wicked deser-uing.

Howsoeuer it be, or in whom-soeuer the fault lyes, on mee are the plagues inflicted, on my head are heaped the disgraces and dishonours, mine is the smart, mine is the Sorrow. And though the eyes of euery Straunger, and of euery Karting Passenger be cast vpon mee, all of them wondering at, but none pittying my misfortune, because to them it appeares sleight, or else it appeares to them no-thing at all, yet let mee stand before a Iuditious, cleere, and impartiall Censor, and the condition of the most wret-ched will not seeme so miserable and base as mine.

When the Hawthorne and Low Bryer are cut downe, the spoyle of them is not regarded, for it moues not any: But when the Prince of the Forrest (the mighty and sa-cred Oake) hath the Axe layed to his roote, at euery blow that is giuen, the very woods send out Grones. Small Cottages beeing on fire, are quickly either quenched, or if not quenched, the wound that a Common-wealth receiues by them is easily cured: But when a body (so noble; So antient, so comely for Stature, so reuerenced for State, so richly adorned, so full of beauty, of strength, of Cere-monies: so followed, so kneeled vnto, and almost so ado-red as my selfe am, and euer haue beene daily) is defaced by flames, and shaken into dust by the wrath of the breath Almighty. The very sight of this is able to breede Earth-quakes in Cities that behold it.

And euen from such a height, such a happinesse, and such an honor am I fallen. My head was aduanced with the loftiest in the Kingdome, and so tender a care had the hea-uens ouer it, that it was taken vp and layde in the bosome of the Clouds.

My aking browes rested themselues vpon the Christall Chariot of the Mone, and the Crowne of my head (when I stode on Tiptoe and stretched my body to the length,) touched

touched that Celestiall roofe, embossed all over with studs of golde, I did not onely ouer-looke the proudest buildinges in thée (O thou Land-lady to so many thousands of houses) with those also that are the inheritance of her thy next neybour: But mine eyé at euery opening hadde the greatest part of the kingdome as a prospect.

The Marriner then called mee his Sea-marke, for to him I stood as a Watch-tower to guide him safely to our English shore. No sooner did ỳ Trauellier by land sée me, but his heart leaped for ioy, and the wearisomnesse of his way seemed to go from him, because he knew he was in sight of the most goodly Cittie which he loued. But how often hath this glory of mine bin Eclipsed, and at such times when it was in the fulnes: whether my own ambition (in aspyring to high) or whether the Justice of those aboue mee in punnishing my pride, were the cause of my Fall, I know not. But sure I am, that my head hath beene often laid to the blocke, and many blowes giuen to strike it off.

The first blow was *giuen me when I had stood vntaynted, and vnblemished 477. years after the beginning of my foundation, for I was raised, and intituled to the name & honour of a Temple, about the yeare after the Incarnation 610. And in the yeare of Redemption, 1087. was I, (with a great parte of thy body (O thou Best of Cities) consumed in Fyre. But I was in a shorte time healed of those harts, by Mauritius* (thy Byshop) who to defend me from after-burnings, mounted me vpon Arches & gaue me ribs of stone, which was fetched from Cane in Normandy.

Frée from the malices (at least from the strokes) of ruinating Time and the enuious *blasts of Fortune, did I continue full 357. yeares together after this first blowe, but in Anno 1444. heauen smote me with lightning, yet did I presently recouer, and held vppe my heade loftier then before, * for in Anno 1462. did my body carry in heigth 520. foot, the stone worke being 260. foot and the Spire as many. In length was I 720. foot, and in breath 130. At the same time

*pauls church buildedabout the year after Christ 610, & about 477. yeares after was consumed by fire 1087 in the time of Willi; Conqueror.

*Mauritius repayred it & new-built it of stone.

*1444 in the raign of Henry 6, Burnt with lightning.

*The description of the Steeple when it was at the Height, & of the body of the church as it is now

thus, did I weare on the Crowne of my head (as it hadde bin a Creſt vnto it) a Cocke or Eagle, which beeing inconſtant was (I thinke) deſtroyed for turning about with euery winde: It carryed in weight forty pounds, being of copper gilded ouer: the length from the bil to the taile four foote, the breadth ouer the wings, three foote, and a halfe, the croſſe (from the bole to the Eagle) fifteene foote, and fiue ynches of a ſize, the length thereof ouer-thwarte, was fiue foote, and ten ynches. The compaſſe of the bole nine foote and one ynch: of which croſſe (which ſtood aboue my head as a rich Diadem) the inner part was Oke, the next couer was lead, and a third (vppon that) of copper, which with the bole and Eagle (being of Copper alſo) were al gilded ouer.

In this magnificence was I arrayed, thus was I with Marble Towers and Pynnacles crowned: the wonder of the world was I counted in the iudgement of all eyes that beheld mee, and the onely marke that enuie of forraigne kingdomes ſhot at, who did but heare of my Greatnes.

But (alacke) how momentary is all earthly happineſſe: Howe fading is our painted Glory: Many yeares were not numbred, but behold in Anno. 1561. the hand of Heauen was once more filled with vengeance, which in clouds of fire, was there throwne vpon my heads, ſo that in leſſe than the ſpace of foure houres, I that was the Mirrhor of the world (for beauty) was made the miſerableſt creature in the worlde by my deformity. Yet did that worthy and my euer to be honoured Miſtris *beſtow vpon me in Gold 1000. Markes to make good my loſſes, and gaue (beſides) warrant for a 1000. loades of Timber, to repayre my ruines: My Cittizens likewiſe (O my deareſt mother) and the Cleargy of the Lande, were euen Prodigall of their purſſes to ſet me vp againe.

1561 in the raigne of Q: Elizabeth fyred by lightning 4. of Iu:

Q. Elizabeth gaue 1000 marks in gold to reedifie the Church

Some good was done vnto mee, and much god leſſe vndone.

This laſt blow was to mee fatall and deadly, for now,

am

am I both headlesse, and honourlesse: my shoulders being daily troden vpon in scorne, branded with markes and Letters, and scoared vppon with the points of knives and Bodkins, which howsoeuer the ignorant laugh at, those that are wise know they are Characters of my infamy, yea so low a state am I brought, that madmen and fooles, & euery vile companion lay wagers in mockery, onely to abuse mee. Some (seeing me so patient to endure Crowes and Dawes) pecking at my ribs, haue driuen faine Partridges ouer my bosome, others euen riding ouer me, and Capring vpon my backe, as if they had bin curvetting on the horse, which in despight they brought to Trample vpon me.

8 Partridges on the top of Powles in an. 1597

A horse there likewise in An. 1600

Who therefore that did but eyther knowe or hath but heard of my former prosperity, would not grieue to see me fallen into this baseness, and most contemptible bondage, but I haue deserued (I confesse) I haue most iustly deserued to haue these afflictions, these dishonours, and these open punishmentes layde vppon mee, albeit they were tenne times numbred ouer and ouer.

For whereas I was at first consecrated to a mistical & religious purpose (the Ceremonies of* which are daily obserued in the better part of me, for my hart is euen to this howre an Altar vpon which are offred the sacrifices of holy prayers for mens Sinnes) yet are some limbes of my venerable bodie abused, and put to prophane, horrid and seruile customes, no marueil though my head rotte, when the bodie is so ful of diseases: no marueil if the Diuine Executioner cut mee off by the shoulders, when in my bosom is so much horrible and close Treason practised against the King of the whole world.

The quyre in which is diuine seruice twice euerie day in the yeare.

The bodie of the Church serues onely for walkes

For albeit though I neuer yet came lowne all my dayes, to bee an Oculer witnesse-bearer of what I Speake, and what is (sometimes spoake openly, and sometimes spoke in priuate) committed in my Walkes, yet doeth the daily sounde and Eccho of much knauish

The walks in Paules

villanie

villany strike vp into mine eare. What whispering is there in Terme times, how by some slight to cheat the poore country Clients of his full purse that is stucke vnder his girdle? What plots are layde to furnish young gallants with readie money, which is shared afterwards at a Tauern) thereby to disfurnish him of his patrimony? what buying vp of oaths, out of the hands of knightes of the Post, who for a few shillings doe daily sell their soules? What layinge of heads is there together and sifting of the braines, still and anon, as it growes towardes eleuen of the clocke, (euen amongst those that wear guilt Rapiers by their sides) where for that noone they may shift from Duke Humfrey, & bee furnished with a Dinner at some meaner mans Table? What damnable bargaines of vnmercifull Brokery, & of vnmeasurable Vsury are there clapt vp? What swearing is there: yea, what swaggering, what facing and out-facing? What shuffling, what shouldering, what Justling, what Jeering, what byting of Thumbs to beget quarels, what holding vppe of fingers to remember drunken méetings, what brauing with Feathers, what bearding with Mustachoes, what casting open of cloakes to publish new clothes, what muffling in cloaks to hyde broken Elbowes, so that when I heare such trampling vp and downe, such spetting, such holking, and such humming, (euery mans lippes making a noise, yet not a word to be vnderstoode,) I verily beléeue that I am the Tower of Babell newly to be builded vp, but presentlie despaire of euer béeing finished, because there is in me such a confusion of languages.

For at one time, in one and the same ranke, yea, foote by foote, and elbow by elbow, shall you sée walking, the Knight, the Gull, the Gallant, the vpstart, the Gentleman, the Clowne, the Captaine, the Appel-squire, the Lawyer, the Vsurer, the Cittizen, the Bankerout, the Scholler, the Begger, the Doctor, the Ideot, the Ruffian, the Cheater, the Puritan, the Cut-throat, the Pye-men, the Low men, the True-man, and the Thiefe: of all trades & professions some,

some, of all Countryes some; And thus doth my middle Isle shew like the Mediterranean Sea, in which as well the Merchant hoyses by sayles to purchace wealth honestly, as the Rouer to light vpon prize vniustly. Thus am I like a common Mart where all Commodities (both the good and the bad) are to be bought and solde. Thus whilest deuotion kneeles at her prayers, doth prophanation walke vnder her nose in contempt of Religion. But my lamentations are scattered with the winds, my sighes are lost in the Ayre, and I my selfe not thought worthy to stand high in the loue of those that are borne and nourished by mee. An end therefore doe I make heare of this my mourning.

The Steeple of S. Paule abruptly thus breaketh off, because he felt himselfe not so well as he could wish; The Lady of Cities (who is gouerned by the wisedome of 24. graue Senators, all those 24. submitting themselues to the authority onely of One, * thereby teaching examples of Obedience) did thus breake silence, and renew her speech:

24. Aldermen L: Mayor.

London's speech to westminster continued.

Tell me now (O Westminster) which of Vs two, haue greatest cause to complaine for the misfortune of our sons; yet thou and I are not indifferent Iudges in this case, because it is our owne particuler: let vs therefore leaue the censure of it to the Arbitrement of the world; and whilest the Controuersie is in deciding, bee not thou offended wth me, if now a litle I take vpon me the office of a Mother, & fall into a gentle reprehension of thee. I remember, that when thou hadst layd abroad the Ruines of thy Sonne, and yet on the top of them hadst builded vp his honors, which to doe, did in thee seeme glorious; thou didst then presently beginne to rip open the adulterous Wombe of those sinnes that are euery day begotten vnder thy roofes: the very naming of which, though it be odious to heauen and earth: yet didst thou seeme to haue so little feeling of thine owne infamy, that thou didst laugh at thy dishonor, and wert it not sory for those euilles which thou thy selfe confessest, abounda[illegible] swarme within thee.

O how palpable is thy blindnesse! How grosse thine ignorannce, in running into this errour! What vpholdeth Kingdomes but gouernement? What subuerteth licentiousnesse and disorder? Vices in a common-wealth are as diseases in a body, if quickly they be not cured, they suddenly kill. They are Weedes in the fayrest Garden, if eare they take roote, you pull them not vp: they spoyle the wholesome Hearbes and Flowers, and turne the Ground into a Wildernesse. There is no destruction so fearefull to a Citty, as that destruction which a Citty brings vpon it selfe: and neuer is it more neere a fall, then when it maketh much of those sins, which like Snakes lie in the bosome of it, and sucke out the blood.

Cities soonest destroy themselues.

All those Cankers of a State, that lye gnawing to eate thee vppe; All those sensuall Streames, that flow about thy body, and labour to drowne it in impieties, flowe in thy Veynes, but as little Riuolets, but in mine they exceede all bounds, and swell vpps to an Ocean. And that the very least of them vndermineth and shaketh my strongest buildings.

The sinnes of London.

What abhomination reigneth in thee, which is not in me doubled? If Pride ride vp and downe in thy Coaches, She is all the forenoone at her Glasse in my priuate chambers, and in the after noone sits like a prostituted Harlot, tempting Passengers to the Stalles of my Inhabitantes. If Vsurers, (who are Christiã Iewes) dwell in thy Streets; I haue both Vsurers and Brokers, (who are the English Deuils) opening shoppes in mine. Dooth thou bring vppe Swearers, I can sweare thee downe: Art thou Quarrelsome? I thirst after bloud: Is there any one in thee that scoffes at Religion? Many there are in mee that sweare there is no Religion.

First Pride

Vsury
Brokery

Periury
Murder
Atheisme

As for that Monster with many heades, that Beast, (both Male and Female) I meane Letchery, it is within my Freedome more mated of, then Iland Dogges are amongest Citizens Wiues: and when it gets out of my

Letchery

fre-

frædome, it is then like the place where it desires to lurke in, for then it lyes out of the circuite of all ciuill Liberty.

In the troublesome reigne of King Stephen, there were shewed at one muster twenty thousand armed Horsemen, and threescore thousand Footemen, all which number were Cittizens that liued within my walles: But I verily beleeue, that in this peaceable reigne of our Princes in these dayes, if a true muster were taken, there would be found almost as many Strumpets as would bee able to dare the Turke, (with all his Concubines) into the fielde, or to ouer-runne all the Lowe Countries, and to spoyle the enemy, were he neuer so strong or desperate, if it came to hand-y-gripes.

Beastes in their Act of generation vse not more communitie: sauage people that know not their Maker, breake not more the limites of Modestie: Common Iuglers, Fidlers, and Players, doe not more basely prostitute themselues to the pleasures of euery two-penny drunken Plebeian, than doe these Quadrantarie Meretrices, the Mercenary Wacknsies that stand at racke and manger within my suburbes.

As Buls and Beares are for small pieces of siluer to be bayted, so are these. As at common Outropes, when houshoulds-stuffe is to bee sold, they cry Who giues more, so stand these vppon their thresholdes, not crying Who giues more, (only) but Who giues any thing. But that it stands not with the Maiesty of our state, nor with the Lawes of our Religion, It were as good, nay better, to giue freedom and liberties to the setting vp of a common Stewes, as heretofore on the Banck (opposite to thee and me on the farther side of the Thames) it hath beene vsed.

In those dayes Orders were established to keepe this Sin within certaine boundes, but now it breakes beyond all limits.

It was then enacted by a parliament (at which then I

hath had thy voyce in so many Parliaments (wert present) that the Bordello or common Stewes on the Bancke-side, should observe these constitutions.

Orders for the Stewes.

First, no Stew-holder, or his wife was to compell any single Woman to stay with them against her will, but to give her leave to come and go at her pleasure.

Our suburb Bawdes keepe ordinaries for all commers.

Secondly, that no Stew-holder should keepe any Woman to board, but shee to board abroad, or where she lyed.

* The price of sin is raysed, & so are the rents.

Thirdly, to take for a Courtezans* Chamber not above 14. pence by the weeke.

* *Nostes atque dies now.*

Fourthly, not to keepe open doores * upon Holy-dayes.

Officers now haue siluer eies and cannot see.

Fifthly, not to keepe any single woman in his house on the Holy-dayes, but the Bailiffe to see them voyded out of the Lordship.

Few Turne-coates in houses of this Religion.

Sixtly, that no single woman should be detayned in any such house against her will, having an intent to forsake that course of life.

Aswell Puritane as Protestant are welcome.

Seuenthly, that no Stew-holder was to giue entertainment to any Woman of any order in Religion, or to any mans wife.

Now they work like Bakers night and day.

Eyghtly, that no Courtezan was to receiue hire of any man to lye with him, but she was to lye all night with him till the next morning.

Now they vse plaine dealing

Ninthly, that no man was to be drawne by violence, or be inticed by any impudent and wanton allurements into any Stewes-house.

They are searched daily.

Tenthly, that euery Brothely or Stew-house was to bee searched weekely by Constables, and other Officers.

Iamque vrit flammarum dulcis.

Lastly, That no Stew-holder should lodge in his house any Woman that had the dangerous infirmity of burning, &c.

These (amongst others) with penalties and punishments vppon the breach of any one of them, were the ordinances of these times, but now (thankes to the negligence of this age) though sharper Lawes doe threaten to strike,

this

this ſinne, yet they do but threaten, for they ſeldom ſtrike, or if they ſtrike, it is with the backe of the ſwoꝛde of Iuſtice.

The ſetting vp of a Whoꝛe-houſe, is now as common as the ſetting vp of a Trade: yea, and it goes vnder that name. A ſtocke of two beds and foure wenches is able to put a Lady Pandareſſe into preſent practiſe, and to bring them into reaſonable doings.

In theſe ſhoppes (of the woꝛlde, the fleſh and the deuill) ſoules are ſet to ſale, and bodies ſent to ſhipwracke: men and women as familiarly goe into a chamber to damne one another on a Feather-bedde, as into a Tauerne to bee merrie with wine. But for all this it goes vnder the name of The ſweet ſin, and of all, they are counted Wenches of the old Religion, and for all their dancings in Tauernes, ryots in Suppers, and ruffling in Taffities, yet A cloyſter of ſuch Nunnes ſtandes like a Spittle, for euery houſe in it is moꝛe infectious then that which hath a Redde Croſſe ouer the doꝛe. Such as Smithfield is to hoꝛſes, ſuch is a Houſe of theſe Siſters to women: It is as fatal to thē, It is as infamous. The Bawds Pettie Bawds, and Panders are the Hoꝛſe-courſers that bring Jades into the market: wher they ſweare they are frée from diſeaſes, whē they haue moꝛe hanging on their bones then are in a French Army; and that they are but Coltes of halfe a years running, when they haue ſcarſe a ſounde tooth in their heades. There ſhall you find beaſtes of all ages, of all Colours, of all prices, of all paces, yet moſt of them gyuen to falſe gallops: hardly among twenty one that is good, for euery one that proues ſo, a hundred continue bad.

Such is the quality of Smithfield Nags, ſuch the property of Suburbe Curtizans. In briefe, their beginning is bravery, their end beggery, their life is deteſtable, & death (for the moſt part) damnable. Since therfoꝛe ſo dangerous a Serpent ſhootes his rankling ſtinges into both our boſomes, let vs not (as deſperate of our owne eſtates) open

our breſts to receiue them, and ſo be guilty to our own deſtruction, but rather prouide vs of Armor to reſiſt the malice of her poyſon, for be aſſured (O thou that art ſtill ready, and ſtill moſt woorthy to entertaine forraygne Princes and Embaſſadors) that ſo long as this double dealing diuell, (Lechery) walks vp and down in our houſes, Vengeance will neuer be driuen from our doores.

A little more muſt I yet chyde thee (O thou Minion, now to Two mighty Nations) for I begin to growe Iealious of thee, that thou ſeekeſt to rob mee of my beſt, my moſt worthy, moſt Princely, and my moſt deſired* Louer, to enioy him ſolely to thy ſelfe: elſe wherefore doſt thou repine that either I, or any other of our Siſter-citties, ſhould be made happy by his company? It ſhewes that thy heart is ſtuffe with a rancke and boyling enuie, thou greeueſt that any ſhould proſper but thy ſelfe. It condemnes thee of ambition, (which ſinne thou thinkeſt becomes thee, becauſe thou art a Courtier) It condemnes thee of Couetouſnes, a vice, than which none more vily blemiſheth a noble mind, (ſuch as all Nations that haue bin thy Gueſts, haue neuer ſuppoſed to ſhine in thee.) I eſteeme my ſelfe the moſt Fortunate of all my neighbour Citties in this large kingdome, if That Royall Maiſter of vs both (nay of vs all) doe but vouchſafe to paſſe by mee, or but ſo much as to caſt his eie vpon me, and doſt thou cry out Thou art vndone, when after his embracings of thee ſo many whole moneths (oftentimes) together, after his beſtowing ſo many dignities, and ſo much wealth vpon thee: yea, and when hee giues thee his Royall word, not to be abſent from thee long? cannot this content thee, and ſatiſfie the flame of thy deſyres, but that thou muſt wiſh to haue him fonde ouer thee, and that the beams of his moſt princely and free affection, ſhould haue all their points meete in thy boſome, as their onelie fixed Obiect? for ſhame deſire it not, for this immoderate appetite of thine is to the diſhonour and hurt of al the Citties round about thee. Diuide therefore theſe paſſions of thy

King Iames.

ſoule

soule, which otherwise will make thee turne wilde, and win them by gentle meanes to come in, and subiect themselues to the lawes of Reason. If the moyst-handed *His, should send all her melted Siluer to that insearchable and vnknowne Treasury of Neptune, (into which all Riuers pay their custome) and shoulde neuer haue an profitable Returne of it, how soone would she grow poore? Or if the Sea-god, (out of a prodigal and flowing humor) should do nothing but powr his gifts into the lappe of that his Christall bosom daughter, how soone would her swimming to hie in riches, make her forget her selfe: and in that pride of swelling, worke the subuersion both of thee and me? we should lye drowned in her greatnes, as other partes of the land would bee ouerwhelmed in thyne, if thou haddest what thou desirest and coueteſt.

The Thames who takes the name from Thame & Isis

But thou seest the Sunne neuer tarries in one poynt of heauen alone, his remouing from place to place, shewes his Soueraignty, and makes him better welcome thither, where hee hath beene the longest absent, and euen so of kinges.

A Citizen of mine (to his immortall memory) dyd in one day, feast at his Table Foure Kings (Viz) Edwarde the third (king of England) Iohn King of France, Dauid le Bruce, king of Scots, and the king of Cyprus, and now of late (imitating that example) did another of my Præters, feast (tho not foure kinges) one equal in power, in Maiesty and in Dominion, to all these 4. (euen the Heyre and present Inheritor of 4. mighty Empires our soueraign Lord) maiſt. Iames the 6. To take but backe vpon which happy daies (because I haue seene but few of thē) makes my hart beate against my ribbes for ioy: I am proud euen in the remembrance of them, and to the intent they may neuer be forgotten, those yeares and months that brought forth this honor vnto me, shall be Chronicled in the midst of my bosome in Characters of Gold.

Hen. Pichard vintner, maior in An. 30, of Edward 3.

* Sir Iohn wats Clothworker Lord Mayor now this present yea, 1607

Thus do I comfort my selfe by repeating ouer ỳ blessings

bestowed

bestowed vpon me by a few of our Princes, but how many of them haue feasted, banqueted and reuealed with thee: And yet wouldst thou barre any of them from taking hys pleasures abroad, but onely in thy presence. Thou arte proude, and takest vpon thée to stretch forth too imperious a hand.

Thou art contented to receiue in the Golden Harueſt, but loath to bee shaken with the breath of Autumne. Thou likest it well to haue a Summer all the yeare, but dost not consider, that Winter is as wholesome for thy body. This shewes thy indiscretion, thy improuidence, and indulgence of thy selfe, to bee pampred like an Epicure.

Thou art greedy as the Sea, and wouldest deuoure all thinges, but wouldst part from nothing: thou art catching as fire, so thy self mayst be fed, thou carest not who perish. Uncharitable are thy wishes, immoderate are thy longings, and most vnconscionable are thy aspyrings, and most vnneighborly are thy fore-stallings. That which thou wouldest haue done, is not (I graunt) against all Law, but it is with All Law, for thou desirest to haue men go to Law all the yeare long, which wish of thine is as dishonest as if it were to haue continuall warres, and continuall wars are continual slaueries: It is as if thou shouldst wish to haue an euerlasting thunder, for what are pleadinges of causes, but noise without ceasing.

A paradox in praise of Vacations.

Thou sayest the foure Tearmes are vnto thée as foure great Feasts, yet dost thou in bitternes of thy sorrow, cry out vpon foure Vacations: wherein thou behauest thy selfe all one, as if thou shouldest complain, because thou art not euery houre feeding. If foure Tearmes should be without ceasme and neuer come to an end, those feastes which they incite thée to, would be to their incurable surfeits, and so consequently thy destruction. If the sounde of Lawyers tongues were but one whole twelue month in thine eare, thou thy selfe wouldst euen loath it, tho it were vnto thee neuer so delicate Musicke.

Nothing

Nothing increaſeth in vs as a delight in any pleaſure, but to haue that pleaſure taken away for a time. But that the night offends vs with darknes, we ſhould grow weary of the day. So that foure Vacations (if thou canſt rightly make vſe of them) may be vnto thee as 4. ſeuerall ſawces, to ſharpen thy ſtomacke againſt thoſe great feaſts, are ſerued vp to thy Tables.

So goe to Law (I confeſſe) is neceſſary in a Republike; So is it to haue a Plague, for thereby the Superfluous numbers of people, which otherwiſe (if they increaſed) would deuoure one another, are ſwept away: So is it to haue War, for the Sword cuts off thoſe idle branches that ſteale away the Sap from the profitable boughes of a Kingdome. But to haue a Warre without end, or a Plague without mercy, is the vndoing of a Realme, and ſo would it be if men were euer in brablings.

The 4. Vacations are like ſo many Soundings of Retreat after 4. Battailes; in which breathing-times men renew their courages, their forces, and their manners of fight: where (elſe) the Pleader (neuer giuing ouer) would grow to rich, and ſo bee enuied, and the client euer ſpending, would be made a Beager, and ſo gather into faction.

Vaine therefore, idle, ſenceleſſe, ſhapeleſſe, and of no validity are thoſe Encomiaſticke honors, with which thy rhetoricall cunning hath fethered a Pen ſo gaily. An Idoll haſt thou made of it, whereas in the true nature it is a pyneon puld from the left wing of the deuill. A Pen! The inuention of that, and of Incke hath brought as many curſes into the world, as that damnable Witch-craft of the Fryer, who tore open the bowels of Hell, to find thoſe murdering engines of mankind, Guns and Powder. Inuectiue againſt a Pen.

Both theſe are alike in quality, in miſchiefe: yea, and almoſt in faſhion; The Pen is the Piece that ſhotes, Inck is the powder that carries, and Words are the Bullets that kill.

The one doth onely deſtroy men in time of warre, the o-

ther conſumes men, both in warre and peace.

The one batters downe Caſtles, the other barters them away. Cedant Arma Togæ, let Guns therefore giue place to Gownes, for the Pen is the more dangerous weapon to run vpon.

Why then doeſt thou, nay, howe canſt thou without bluſhing defend a cauſe ſo notoriouſly badde? How dareſt thou hang a Tree ſo barren of goodneſſe, and ſo rancke of poyſon at the roote, with ſo many Garlandes of prayſes? Canſt thou finde in thy heart to write Eulogies in honour of that deadly double pointed Engine, that hath bẽn the confuſion of ſo many thouſands? Then let wreathes of Lawrell Crowne their Temples, that ſhall ſing the diſhonorable Acts of thoſe Swords, which baſely haue bẽn inbrued in the bowels of their owne Countrey: for in what other tryumphes (then in the afflictions of men) are theſe warlike Inſtruments of writing imployed?

One daſh of a Pen hath often bẽne the downefall of a man and his poſterity. By help of this, Wiues practiſe to abuſe their Huſbands, by the Witch-craft of Amorous paſſions, (which are coniurd out of a Gooſe-quill,) Louers intice young wenches to folly. This is that which ſpreads abroad, and ſowes the Sẽdes of Schiſmes and Hereſies. This is that, which marres all Learning, and makes it contemptible, by making it common. It is the Weapon of a Foole, and oftentimes his braynes drop out of the end of it in ſtead of Incke. It is a ſharpe Goade that prickes our young Gentry to beggery, for in leſſe than a quarter of an howre, (with a Pen) doe they betray all the Landes and liuings purchaſed by their progenitors, into the hands of Brokers, Scriueners, and Vſurers.

What forren hand hath euer bẽn working in the forge of Treaſon (for the deuaſtation of this Kingdome, for the extirpation of the Religion in it, or for the murdering of our Princes) But Penners (like Hammers on an Anuile) haue continually bẽne beating out the plottes, and con-

ueying

ueying them hither to bee made ſmooth, and to paſſe current. What Libilles againſt Princes, againſt Peeres, againſt the State, or againſt our Magiſtrates, were euer (like pricking Thornes) thruſt into the ſides of this Empire, to make it bleed, of which a Pen was not guilty?

This, by leauing a word vnpoynted, was the death of Edward the ſecond: with this, holding it but in his hand, did Richard the ſecond giue away all the royalties belonging to a Crowne, and blotted out his owne name for euer any more to be found written with the name of a King. The words were theſe, *Eduardum occidere, nolite timere bonum eſt.*

In concluſion, the Tragedies of ſo many of our Ancient Nobility, were neuer acted on Scaffolds, but a Pen was chiefe Actor in their deaths and downefals.

So then you may perceiue, that this Rauens bill draweth bloud where it once faſtneth: The Jawes of a Toade (ſweating & foaming out poyſon) are not more dangerous than a Pen being filled with that banefull and venomous mixture of Gall and Copporas. Accurſed therefore be that * Bird, out of whoſe wing, ſo peſtilent and ſo malitious an enemie to humane creatures is taken: offenſiue to the ſtomacke, be for euer the meat of it, and apt to engender mortall ſurfeits, ſithence ſo ſmall a part of it (as a Quill,) hath bred from the beginning, and (til the diſſolution of this Vniuerſall Frame) will be the cauſe of ſo much diſtemperature in the body of the Worlde. Which miſchiefe that worthy Romaine Captain, who (about the eight yeare of the raigne of Caſſibelan, Brother to King Lud (my firſt Founder and 54 yeares before the King, both of Heauen and earth, ſent his Sonne to dwell amongſt men) entred this Land, conquered it, & made it tributary to the people of Rome, wiſely looking into, and obſeruing, that Princes, Rulers, and Great perſonages, muſt of neceſſity (being bound thereto by the ceremony of their birth, or by their place in the ſtate) yeeld ſometime to that, which otherwiſe ỹ noblenes of their owne bloud would abhor, did often wiſh that he could not know how to handle a Pen.

* A Gooſe.

Iulius Cæſar, 54. yeeres before Chriſt, conquered Britaine.

And that Mirror of her Yere, both for magnanimity of minde, inuincibleneſſe of Spirit, and (which is to her the greateſt part of her fame) for the cloſing vppe of ſo long a raigne, with ſo full and ſo grieuous a period, that Goddeſſe vpon earth whileſt ſhe liued, that our Good Miſtris (Eliza) when ſhee was to ſigne any warrant for the death of any Peere, would paſſionately (yet with a Spirit equal to Cæſars) ſay thus, Would to God wee had neuer beene taught how to write.

And thus (O thou that ſitteſt crowned like an Empreſſe) withall our riches and faireſt Monuments haue I diſcharged the Office of a faithfull ſurueior, by telling thee what part of thy goodly body is builded to high, wherein my Counſell is that thou ſhouldeſt a little plucke downe thy Pryde. And in what other part thou ſtandeſt too low, where I could wiſh thee to raiſe it vp to a more noble Eminence. I haue likewiſe pointed with my finger, at al thoſe Cracks, diſioyntings, Flawes, and Flyings out, which if they bee not repayred, are able in time to ſhake into duſt a Citty greater then thy ſelfe: And (in my Reall loue to thee) haue I ſcored ſuch plaine markes vpon thy hidden Ruines, which (like Treacherous Seruants) receiue in ſtormes (for euer to vnder thee) that if in any fit ſeaſon, thou vnderprop them, and take down whatſoeuer is amiſſe, thou ſhalt in this thy old age growe ſtrong and luſty againe, and with an eaſie Reſt ſaue thy ſelfe from Falling.

With a free and vn-mercenary voyce, haue I pleaded for thy good, by diſcouering what is ill in thee: ſo that my Lectures of Reprehention may ſerue as wholeſom Councell. Thou canſt not blame me for opening thy woundes, and ſearching them to the quick, ſithence thou ſeeſt I ſpare not mine owne. My pils perhaps may ſeeme a little bitter in going downe, but in the working thou ſhalt finde them as comfortable as Reſtoratiues.

Take courage therefore to thee, and like a Prince that can commaund his owne affections (which is the Nobleſt Soueraignty

raignty, be bold not onely to ſtrike off thoſe ſicke and infected parts, about the body of the Weale-publicke, whych threaten daunger to thoſe that are ſounde, but alſo applie thou the ſame ſharp medicines, which I haue miniſtred to thee, if hereafter (as I often fele my ſelf) thou perceiueſt me ready or ſubiect to fall into loathſome diſeaſes.

We are now both of vs as Buildings belonging to one Land lorde, ſo cloſely ioyned together in league, that the world thinkes it a thing impoſſible, by any violence, vnleſſe we fall to ciuill diſcention within our ſelues, euer to be ſeperated: our handes as if it were at a marriage, are plighted one to another: our bodies are ſtill embracing, as if they were Twinnes: wee are growne ſo like and euerie day doe more and more ſo reſemble each other that many who neuer knew vs before, woulde ſweare that we were all One.

Sithence then we are held to be ſo, let vs neuer bee taken to be otherwiſe. But as ſiſters do, if the one fel ſorrow let the other mourne, if the one bee lifted vp to honors, let not the other repine. And as ſtringes to an inſtrument, tho we render ſeuerall ſoundes, yet let both our ſoundes cloſe vp in ſweet concordant Muſicke. Arme thy ſelfe therefore (with Mee) to maintaine that Vnion, without whych Realmes are builded vpon ſande, and On whych they are ſtronger then if they ſtod vpon Rockes.

And becauſe al Citties were bound in common ciuility, in pollicie, and in honour to maintaine their Names, their Callings, their Priuiledges, and thoſe Ancient houſes that Spring out of them, I wil in thy preſence Annatomize my ſelfe, euen from head to foot, thou ſhalt know euery limbe of me, and into how many parts my bodie is deuided. My birth, my bringing vp, and my riſing ſhall bee as manifeſt to thy vnderſtanding as to mine, becauſe by the wilfull ignorance of thoſe that ought of duety to preſerue my credit, my good name is oftentimes and in many places abuſed & taken from me.

Neither would I haue thée account mee insolent, vainglorious, or ambitious, in erecting these Trophyes of Fame to my selfe, with mine owne handes: for vpon them shall neither be ingrauen the Actes of my sumptuous Builders, (which would be to great an ostentation) nor the battels which my Citizens haue oftentimes fought and won in defence of my liberties, which (more to my glory) might be rehearsed by others.

But passing ouer the Names of some (which to repeate would be to me an euerlasting renown). As to boast (which lawfully & without the blot of arrogance I could doe) that Constantine the Emperor ỹ builded Constantinople, drew his breath from my bosome, or that Maud the Empresse, did honour to me as to the mother that gaue her life, or that King Henry (son to Henry 2,) was begotten in my womb, which Henry at the age of 7. years was maried to Marg. (ỹ French kings daughter) being not two years old, & afterwards with her in the life time of his father, were crowned at Winch. But burying this glory of mine (to be forgotten) in the Graues where these my children lye (now consumed to nothing) I will onely content my selfe (& it is but a poore ambition) to tell thée how I came to be called a Citty.

Constantine the Emperor Mawd the Empresse, and Henry son to Henry 2 born in London.

By what Names London from time to time hath bin called, and how it came to bee diuided into Wardes.

OBserue me therfore (O my most ingenious Pupill and scorne not to cal me thy Tutor) for I must heere and there speake of some matters, that I was an Eye-witnesse to, long before thou hadst any being. Knowe thē (because time) who alters all things, may perhaps heereafter as hee hath done already, giue me some other new vpstart name) that Brute from whom I tooke my byrth, after he had

had brought me (as thou sayst to this day I abide) close to the Ryuer of Thames, did there bestow a Name on me, & called me Troynouant or Trinouant, and sometimes Trinobant, to reuiue (in me) the memory of that Citty which was turned into Cinders, and that for all the spight of those Gods who hated it, there should be a new Troy which was my selfe.

The Names of London.

That was the style by which I was knowne, for the space of more than one thousand years, and then Lud chalenging me as his owne, tooke away none of my dignities, but as women marryed to great persons, loose their old names, so did I mine being wedded to that king, and (after himselfe) was crowned with the Title of Laire-lud, that is to say, the Citty of Lud or Ludstone, vpon which some nations call me Londonū or Longidinū, & Laodinū, others Lundayne, the Saxons Londonceaster, and Londonbridge. The Spaniardes Londra, the French Londres, and nowe in these dayes the people of our owne countrey, London.

In my Infant-rising was I but of base and meane estimation amongest other Citties, and was scarcelie knowne for all I was the Daughter of a king. But Ludde lifted mee vppe to high honours and greate aduancementes, for hee set a Coronet of Towers vppon my heade, and although it were not beautifull for Ornament, yet made he for me a Gyrdle, strong for defence, which being made of Turffe and other such stuffe, trenched roundе about, serued in the Nature of a Wall or Rampyre, to keepe and defende off the assaulting enemies.

Lud made a wall about London of Turfe &c, but the Romains caused it to be made of stone.

Afterwardes the Romaynes beeing the Lordes of the whole kingdome, and so consequently of mee, instеede of throwing mee into seruile Slauery, rayſed mee vppe to high dignity and honour, and whereas I trembled with feare to haue my buildinges flaming about mine eares,

they

they adorned my body, and apparrelled it rounde about with stone, for til the arriuall of that warlike and industrious Nation on our shores, the Brittons dwelt in Townes as basely builded, as those now of the wild Irish.

The seuerall Nations that conquered this land frō time to time

After I was thus fashioned and refined into the ciuill and beautifull shape of a City, I began to be courted, and to be the onely Minion of the Land, the Romaines fought in my quarrell. the Brittons heaped vpon me honours, the Saxons (that draue out them) bound Garlands of victorye about my forehead.

But these being beaten from my company by the Danes, I was by them spoyled of all my Ornamentes, and prostituted as a strumpet to the lust of ciuill discord. In heate of which the Normans came in rescue, chased hence ỹ Danes recouered the whole Empyre, and reduced it into one Monarchy. From that day haue I euer since flourished, euer since haue I swelled vp in greatnes, euer since haue I bin loued of our kings, because euer since haue to our kinges bin loyall.

How London cam to be deuided into Wards.

In which prosperous growing vp of mine, all my boughes and my branches, haue more and more in stead of bearing fruit, bin replenished with multitudes of peoples, whose numbers increasing, it was thoght fit (in policy) that they should be quartered like Souldiers into bands, the better to bring them into order. According therfore to the Romans custome of Cities, was I diuided into certaine Signories, all of them notwithstanding, like so many streames to one Head, acknowledging a priority and subiection, to One, Greater than the rest, and who sith aboue them, these Diuisions or Parrages are called Wardes, or Aldermanries, being 26 in number, which are ciuilly guarded and wisely prouided, for by 24. Aldermen, in whom is represented the dignity of Romaine Senatours, and of Two Sheriffes, who personate (in their Offices and places) the Romane Consuls.

Then is there a Subdiuision, for these Greater Cantle,

Londons cõplaint about the Plague.

beleeue me, the care that I haue of my Children, (whom I doe keepe) Conquers the height of my minde, (whereas my Nature, were it by it selfe (with sorrow) dies off the grouelling on the ground. Bleed vnto vs both, sure swelling Ayres, whilest this pestilent vapour hangs ouer our heades: Dead are our pleasures, for we take no delight in nothing but in mourning. Dead are our houres of leysure, and those which are full of businesse (for euen the Lawe it selfe, (of whose presence wee both are glad, because wee gayne by her, and because shee euen brings vs good and merry Company to cheere our hearts) will sitte heauily in thy Courts of Iustice; nay, I feare shee will bee vnwilling (seeing vs so subiect to diseases) to sit there at all.

Many a sad & black Tearme hath bin seen walking in thy Hall, (like a Mourner) and I perceiue by thy lookes, thou art now in feare to bee troubled with the like. I cannot blame thee, neither will I chide thee, for I suppose shee is as great with griefe as thy selfe. Neyther is that Blacke and Ominous day so happen and fall vpon vs, shall I wonder, For I cannot see, how the Diuine Vengeance should be driuen back, since so many bold darings are giuen, seeing it to breake through the gates of heauen.

The shaking of the Rodde is not thought of, the stripes moue vs not, the very drawing of bloud, is by some but made a mockery: for proue it I will vnto thee, (though to tell it, my buildings will shake at the very horror of the same) A story of death, both true and new. And this it is.

A description of Sturbridge fayre.

One (vpon whom I had but lately bestowed the Title and Dignity of a Citizen) of whom I had good hope, cause I found him worthy thus to bee honoured, (hauing his last leaue of me (as since it hath falne out) beene to that quarter of the Land, to which from all other parts vsed in multitudes repayre, to sucke the sweetnesse of honest gaynes, and so to increase their wealth.

It is a place, where (in a large fielde) a City as it were in a fewe dayes builded vppe, and so quickely rayſed, as if it had beene done by Enchantment, and in as few daies is it afterwardes pulled downe, no memory remayning of it, nor Monument to ſhewe that there it ſtoode: though whilſt the earth beareth it vppe, there be Fayre ſtreetes, ſo filled with people, that they ſeeme to be paued euen with the ſcete of men: whileſt on eyther ſide, ſhops are ſo furniſhed and ſet forth with all rich and neceſſary commodities, that many comming thyther, haue taken that place for my ſelfe, and haue not ſtucke to call it by the name of Little London, ſo like do they ſweare it hath been vnto me, both in face and fashion of body.

The death of a young man a linnen Draper dwelling in Friday-ſtreet.

Thither went this young Squire of mine, and there miſtaking the place, for me, layed downe his head, as thinking it had beene my boſome, but never lifted it vp againe. A token had hee ſent from heauen, by which hee was bidden to make haſt thither, hee obeyed the bringer of it, and in ſtead one of his ſoule that was gone a iourney, left his his cold body behind.

The two Porters of London.

To keepe which ſafe, Two ſouldiers were hyred to bide in the earth, they did ſo, vſing the body, as ſouldiers do Townes which are taken, they rifled it, of all that belonged vnto it, and what all men elſe were afraid to touch or come neere, did they (being armed with the deſire of money) nimbly, and boldly packe vppe, intending at their comming home to ſhare it.

No ſooner had they diſpatched their deadly buſines, but thoſe that had Authority of the place, and who made much of theſe two Sharkers before, when they ſtoode in neede of their helpe, make vp to as much haſt as they can, to ride them out of their company: Away therefore like Pedlers from the ende of a Fayre, ſo doe they ſend them away trudging.

The Town looked euen ſick ſo long as they were in it,

yt was a killing to any Countrey fellowe to haue lokes vppon them, if hee had but heard what parts in this blacke Tragedy of death they had played. And both of them being Pozers, were taken by reason of their white Frocks, for two Ghoſts walking in white ſhirts: to haue drunk with theſe Pot-tollers haue beene no way but one, to haue ſolde any drinke to them, had beene for a Taylor to haue bought his lande: nay, whoſoeuer did but ſpy them in, ſtoze off, oz were but told that two ſuch Rauens (who pecked vppon a dead body) flew that way, cryed preſently out, Lord haue mercy vppon vs, clapping their hard handes on their Country breaſts, and looking more pale then the ſhéete in which the man was buryed.

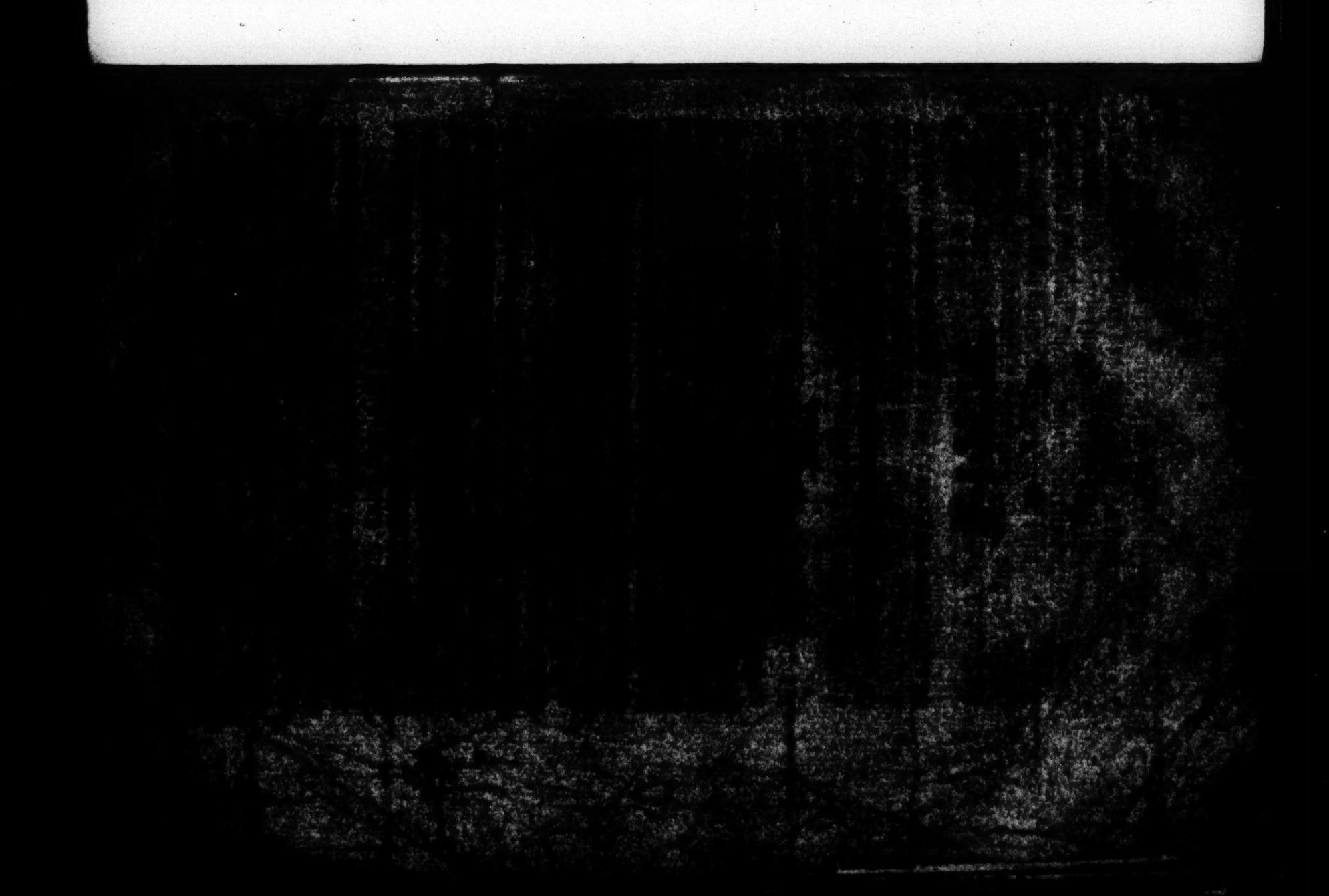
But the beſt was theſe Parmets, (that dealt in ſuch a dead commodity) were borne ſo beare, tooke all things patiently.

But ambling on their way towards their Inne (which is vnder my wing) where they knew they ſhould finde better entertainement, their minds were troubled, and their téeth watered, at the remembrance of their Country Money, but not of apparell, and other baggage which was left in the Bed-chamber where the Fellow died: which they perſwaded themſelues no man (vppon paine of life) vnbeſſe it were They two, durſt or would once venture.

They ſtruggled as they rode, and as a Mouſe ſtriuing backe, would they ſtand ſtone ſtill, but the Waſpes were buzzing about their eares all the way to puniſh their folly. But the power of their tongues being loſt, and not able to raile, they ſhooke their heads like a couple of Aſſes, and bit their lips like Dogges, that he is hanged that can ſpeak nothing to help himſelfe in this preſent trouble. Gladly would they haue returned backe, but durſt not: their fingers itched to lay hold vppon the prize, but all the Cuſtomers in the Countrey.

At length one of them hauing a more plaugy pate than his

The other ſcratched at this, and grind, inſtead of [illegible]
applaudit, which [illegible]
of the Country. [illegible]
Barnwell (where Cambridge) [illegible]
[illegible]
Iuglet following after, [illegible]
head of the man, [illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
up and downe) [illegible] ſought
to ſtop him.

At length he came to the houſe where the deade man had
bin lodged [illegible] no
driuen, that was his Inne, there he woulde lie, that was
his Beslam, and there or no where muſt his mad tricks be
plaid.

In the end, the feare of further danger to ſtowe from
him (as being thought to haue the plague) and the autho-
rity of thoſe that could command, made this vnruly gueſt
be let into the ſame houſe, where entring, none durſt keep
him company, but the Byrd of his own feather, and that
was the ſport which hee looked for. In no other chamber
muſt he be lodged, but onely that where, al the dead mans